REMARKS:

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 3, 4, 12, 14, 16, 20 and 22-26. New claim 27 is added. No new matter is presented. Claims 1, 2, 5-11, 13, 15, 17-19 and 21 remain cancelled.

Thus, claims 3, 4, 12, 14, 16, 20 and 22-27 are pending and under consideration. The rejections are traversed below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e):

Claims 3, 4, 12, 14, 16, 20 and 22-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,064,982 (Puri).

Puri is directed to recommending a system configuration that most meets a customer's need based on the customer's response regarding requirements of the system. For example, as shown in FIG. 4 of Puri, a customer is provided with general statements (50) expressing needs in relation to a product from which the customer may select by checking a box (51) associated with each statement regarding the product (see also, col. 1-15). That is, Puri only recommends the way a system already selected by the customer is set up (i.e., number of users, components of the product, etc.) and does not select the product itself based on the customer's need.

In contrast to Puri, the present invention is directed to a method and system for providing a user with information of a commodity having a specification to realize an object of use selected by the user. The present invention retrieves at least one commodity that meets the user's needs based on a selection by the user from objects of uses of a plurality of commodities. For example, upon selection of "desire to edit digital video" as an intended use from displayed objects of uses, a user is provided with specifications of commodities that satisfy the intended use (see, FIGS. 7 and 8). However, using the same example, Puri would only recommend how the components of a selected product are set up based on responses of the customer regarding identified use of the selected product.

Independent claim 3, by way of example, recites that the present invention includes "displaying objects of use of commodities" and "preparing a table indicative of correspondence between the objects of use and specifications required to attain the commodities." Based on "at least one object of use selected by a user", the present invention acquires "a specification corresponding to at least one object of use" and displays "information on a commodity having specifications corresponding to the selected object of use without requiring the user's knowledge

of specifications." Independent claims 12, 14, 16, 20 and 22 also recite similar features of claim 3.

Independent claims 23 and 24 also recite that commodity specification is retrieved based on "the user selecting at least one usage information from the displayed selectable commodities usage information" and "a selection of at least one selectable commodities usage information", respectively.

Independent claims 25 and 26 recite, "displaying a specification information of the commodity" based on "a selection of usage information by a user from commodities usage information displayed to the user" (Claim 25) and "providing information of a corresponding commodity to the user based on the selection of the object of use" (Claim 26).

Puri is limited to recommending configuration for a system after the user has selected the products and does not teach or suggest providing specification of a commodity based on "object of use" or "usage information" selected by the user as recited in each of the independent claims 3, 16, 20 and 22-26.

It is submitted that the independent claims are patentable over Puri.

For at least the above-mentioned reasons, claims depending from the independent claims are patentably distinguishable over Puri. For example, as recited in claim 4, "a specification corresponding to the at least one object of use" selected by the user is retrieved via a network where "the network is Internet". The Puri does not teach or suggest these features of claim 4.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 27 emphasizes that a user of the present invention is able to select an intended use from "displayed uses of a plurality of commodities" based on which the present invention retrieves a list of commodities.

Puri does not teach or suggest, "receiving a selection of a user from displayed uses of a plurality of commodities", "retrieving a list of commodities in response to the selection" and "allowing the user to select a commodity from the list of commodities and providing information of the commodity including usability of the commodity with other commodities", as recited in new claim 27.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that new claim 27 is patentably distinguishable over Puri.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.
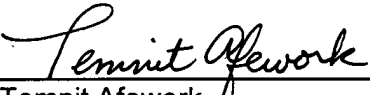
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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